(b) whether it is also a fact that some companies are overcharging for three hundred twelve drug formulae that come under the purview of price control in the market;

(c) if so, since when these drug manufacturing companies are overcharging the price of drugs and the excess amount charged by them from the public so far;

(d) whether National Drugs Pricing Authority (NPPA) has ordered for recovery from these drug manufacturing companies; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) The prices of 74 bulk drugs specified in the First Schedule of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO' 95) and the formulations based thereon are regulated in accordance with the provisions of the DPCO' 95, which are being administered through the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA).

(b) and (c) The detection of cases of overcharging in violation of provisions of DPCO' 95 is a continuous process. Since the inception of NPPA in August 1997 and till 31st January 2009, NPPA have issued demand notices in 614 cases for overcharging to the companies for recovery of an amount of Rs.1954.53 crore. So far, Rs. 140.87 crore has been realized. Recoveries amounting to Rs.1773.91 crore are *sub-judice* in various Courts. The major amount is under litigation and the recovery of the same depends upon the outcome of the Court cases.

(d) and (e) NPPA has so far initiated Recovery proceedings in 39 cases, which have been referred to the Collectors of the districts in various states for Recovery of an amount of Rs.110.22 Crores.

Decrease in the agricultural land

†*20.SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during last few years there has been a decrease in the land under cultivation in the country due to use of agricultural land for other purposes;

(b) if so, yearly average of reduction in agricultural land from 2004 to 2008; and

(c) the names of States and the quantum of reduction area in each of them?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) As per available estimates, there is a marginal decline in agricultural land from 182.586 million ha. in 2003-04 to 182.195 million ha. in 2006-07 due to increase in population and diversion of agricultural land for non agricultural purposes such as urbanization, roads, industries etc.

(b) In last four years (2003-07), the annual average reduction in agricultural land is about 97,750 ha.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) The names of States and quantum of reduction in agricultural land from 2003-04 to 2006-07 are given in the Statement.

Statement

State-wise area of Agricultural Land during 2003-04 and 2006-07

(Area in thousand hectares)

S.No.	Name of States/UTs	Agricultural land		Quantum of change in four years (2003-2007)
		2003-04	2006-07	
1	2	3	4	5
1)	Andhra Pradesh	15789.00	15911.00	(+)122.00
2)	Arunachal Pradesh	415.00	422.00	(+)7.00
3)	Assam	3224.00	3224.00	0.00
4)	Bihar	6640.00	6638.00	(-)2.00
5)	Chhattisgarh	5604.00	5581.00	(-)23.00
6)	Goa	197.00	197.00	0.00
7)	Gujarat	12412.00	12412.00	0.00
8)	Haryana	3771.00	3782.00	(+)11.00
9)	Himachal Pradesh	804.00	813.00	(+) 9.00
10)	Jammu & Kashmir	1050.00	1048.00	(-)2.00
11)	Jharkhand	4184.00	4184.00	0.00
12)	Karnataka	12421.00	12379.00	(-)42.00
13)	Kerala	2378.00	2329.00	(-)49.00
14)	Madhya Pradesh	17362.00	17312.00	(-)50.00
15)	Maharashtra	21180.00	21162.00	(-)18.00
16)	Manipur	224.00	231.00	(+)7.00
17)	Meghalaya	1061.00	1057.00	(-)4.00
18)	Mizoram	352.00	213.00	(-)139.00
19)	Nagaland	645.00	657.00	(+)12.00
20)	Orissa	7473.00	7473.00	0.00
21)	Punjab	4270.00	4270.00	0.00
22)	Rajasthan	25638.00	25600.00	(-)38.00
23)	Sikkim	153.00	155.00	(+)2.00
24)	Tamil Nadu	8168.00	8148.00	(-)20.00
25)	Tripura	310.00	310.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5
26)	Uttarakhand	1511.00	1504.00	(-)7.00
27)	Uttar Pradesh	19307.00	19268.00	(-)39.00
28)	West Bengal	5876.00	5751.00	(-)125.00
29)	A and N Islands	47.00	47.00	0.00
30)	Chandigarh	2.00	2.00	0.00
3l)	Dadar and Nagar Haveli	24.00	24.00	0.00
32)	Daman and Diu	3.00	3.00	0.00
33)	Delhi	57.00	54.00	(-)3.00
34)	Lakshadweep	3.00	3.00	0.00
35)	Pondicherry	31.00	31.00	0.00
	GRAND TOTAL	182586.00	182195.00	(-)391.00

(-) indicates reduction and (+) indicates increase in the area of Agriculture land in last four years

Source: Agricultural Statistics at a Glance-2008, Directorate of E&S, DAC, MOA, GOI, New Delhi

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WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Rural Indian and Agriculture Sector

1. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number/percentage of population residing in urban/rural areas of the country;

(b) the number/percentage of population dependent on agriculture and what per cent it is of total population of the country;

(c) the percentage of total work force dependent on agriculture;

(d) the percentage of contribution of agriculture sector to GDP, during last five years;

(e) the percentage of GDP invested in agriculture sector and other sectors, sector-wise during last five years;

(f) the percentage of Budget allotted to agriculture during last five years/till date; and

(g) whether above scenario shows gross neglect of rural area and agriculture sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) According to Census 2001, urban and rural population in the country were 28.61 crore and 74.25 crore respectively. Urban population was 27.81% and rural population was 72.19% of the total population of India.

(b) The population dependent on agriculture as per 2001 Census was 23.41 crore which was 22.75% of the total population of India.